GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2282
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SUGARCANE PRODUCTION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the average sugarcane production in the country vis-a-vis world average production;

(b) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take steps to develop high yielding varieties of sugarcane;

(c) if so,the details and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase the procurement price of sugarcane as demanded by some farmers' organisations of Karnataka; and

(e) if so,the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The average sugarcane production in the country for the last three years, i.e. 2004-05 to 2006-07 is 2912.6 lakh tonnes vis-Ã -vis world average production of 14210.3 lakh tonnes for the corresponding period.

(b) & (c): There has been consistent improvement in the cane and sugar yield potential of the varieties developed in the country during the past nine decades. Sugarcane varietal development in the country is being carried out by two Central Institutes, i.e. Sugarcane Breeding Institute (SBI), Coimbatore and Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research (IISR), Lucknow and over 20 State Sugarcane Research Stations. During the last three years, a number of sugarcane varieties have been released for different agro-climatic zones of the country, which are Co 99004, Co 99006, Co 01061, Co 98014, CoS 96268, CoS 97222, CoJ 20913 and CoS 96275.

(d) & (e): Government only fixes Statutory Minimum Price (SMP), payable by sugar factories for sugarcane for each season (October-Sep.).For 2008-09 sugar season, SMP of sugarcane has been fixed at Rs.81.18 per quintal for a basic recovery rate of 9% subject to a premium of Rs.0.90 for every 0.1% point increase in the recovery above that level.There is no proposal to revise the SMP fixed for 2008-09 sugar season.